

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): An isolated polynucleotide;  
which consists of a coding region for which encodes a polypeptide, wherein said  
polypeptide that binds to binds to WF00144 and has a molecular weight of about 35kD[[],]];  
and

which has at least 96% homology with SEQ ID NO: 1, or which hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent conditions, wherein stringent conditions comprise washing in 0.1 x SSC and 0.1% SDS at 68°C.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20, which has at least 96% homology to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20, which hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent conditions, wherein stringent conditions comprising washing in 0.1 x SSC and 0.1% SDS at 68°C.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20, which encodes a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20, ~~which encodes a polypeptide in which at least one and up to 10% of the amino acid residues described by SEQ ID NO: 2 are different than the corresponding amino acids in wherein said encoded polypeptide has at least 96% homology with SEQ ID NO: 2.~~

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20, which encodes a polypeptide in which one to five of the amino acid residues in SEQ ID NO: 2 are different than the corresponding amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 20.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A transformant comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 20.

Claim 29 (Withdrawn): A method for making a polypeptide that binds to WF00144, comprising culturing the transformant of Claim 28 for a time and under conditions suitable for production of a polypeptide that binds to WF00144, and recovering said polypeptide.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The ~~full complement of the polynucleotide of claim 20 full complement of the polynucleotide of Claim 20 or a fragment thereof consisting of at least 15 consecutive bases of said full complement.~~

Claim 31 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): An isolated polynucleotide; which consists of a coding region for which encodes a polypeptide that binds to binds to WF00144 and has a molecular weight of about 35kD, and which has at least 96% homology with SEQ ID NO: 3, or which hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 3 under stringent conditions, wherein stringent conditions comprise washing in 0.1 x SSC and 0.1% SDS at 68°C.

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 31, which has at least 96% homology to SEQ ID NO: 3.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 31, which hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 3 under stringent conditions, wherein stringent conditions comprising washing in 0.1 x SSC and 0.1% SDS at 68°C.

Claim 34 (Withdrawn): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 31, which encodes a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 4.

Claim 35 (Withdrawn): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 31, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 31, ~~which encodes a polypeptide in which at least one and up to 10% of the amino acid residues described by SEQ ID NO: 4 are different than the corresponding amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 4~~

wherein said encoded polypeptide has at least 96% homology with SEQ ID NO: 4.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 31, which encodes a polypeptide in which one to five of the amino acid residues in SEQ ID NO: 4 are different than the corresponding amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 4.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): A vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 31.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn): A transformant comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 31.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): A method for making a polypeptide that binds to WF00144, comprising culturing the transformant of Claim 39 for a time and under conditions suitable for production of a polypeptide that binds to WF00144, and recovering said polypeptide.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): The full complement of the polynucleotide of Claim 31 ~~or a fragment thereof consisting of at least 15 consecutive bases of said full complement.~~

Claim 42 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): A method for identifying a substance which regulates sugar production in a mammal, comprising:  
contacting a test substance with a host cell transformed with an isolated polynucleotide which encodes a polypeptide that binds to ~~binds to~~ WF00144 and which has a molecular weight of about 35 kD, and

which has at least 96% homology with SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3, or which hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3 under stringent conditions, wherein stringent conditions comprise washing in 0.1 x SSC and 0.1% SDS at 68°C; and  
cultivating said host cell under conditions suitable for expression of said isolated polynucleotide, and  
selecting a test substance which regulates sugar production.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): The method of Claim 42, wherein said host cell is transformed with a vector containing said isolated polynucleotide and a reporter gene downstream from said polynucleotide, wherein said method comprises measuring the activity of the reporter gene and selecting a substance which increases or decreases the expression of said reporter gene.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 30 in a form suitable for administration as an antisense medication.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 41 in a form suitable for administration as an antisense medication.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20, further comprising at its 5' end an oligonucleotide encoding histidine, lysine or arginine.

Claim 47 (Currently Amended): A viral vector ~~or a liposome~~ comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20.

**Claim 48 (New): A liposome comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 20.**